

(F) Please enter the following Abstract beginning at Page 12, line 1 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is an intrinsically stable shirred, tubular, single-layer or multilayer food casing that preferably has a sigma-5 value (longitudinal/transversal, measured in a moist state) of less than $20/20 \text{ N/mm}^2$. Said casing is preferably shirred at a ratio of 100:1 or more, preferably 120:1 to 500:1, and is essentially made of synthetic polymers. The shirred casing can be stored and transported without using a net-type envelope and is particularly suitable for processing on fully automatic sausage stuffing, portioning, clipping, and twisting devices.